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brain was 67.5 cm., and the greatest breadth 20 cm. Hemispheres with thin walls which collapsed on withdrawal of the fluid. The main portion of the specimen was hardened in bichromate and preserved in alcohol, while small portions of one hemisphere were prepared by other more special methods. The gyri were unusually long and broad, well rounded, though but slightly prominent, the sulci very shallow. The lateral ventricles were enormously enlarged; the hemispheres thin-walled, and showing at places on the internal surface ridges of medullary substance. Corpus callosum and fornix were represented by the merest remnants; the septum lucidum by its pedunculi. The third ventricle was much enlarged, and the soft commissure was wanting. The hemispherical wall was from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cm. thick; the cortex 2—3 mm. thick. A centrum ovale did not exist. Careful measurements are given of the basal ganglia, interbrain, midbrain, hind-brain, and after-brain—all symmetrical. A microscopical examination of the cortex by the methods of Exner and Weigert showed a normal development of the fibers, save that those of the first (zonal) layer were unusually slender. The ganglion cells were abundant and no change in them, even in the motor regions, could be determined. The pathological changes in the crura and parts lying caudad were the complete obliteration of the central canal and degeneration in the pyramidal tracts. The great slenderness of the first layer of cortical fibers is explained as the result of stretching. The cortical speech center was incompletely developed. The secondary degeneration of the pyramidal tracts was associated with the loss of the subcortical medullary substance, as has been shown in other cases of hydrocephalus, with paralysis and contracture. Degeneration in the cord mainly affected the fibers for the lower limbs, as was to be expected, and with this was also associated the very poor development of the central gyri in their dorsal third.

Ueber Hirngewichte bei Geistesschwachen. WULF. XXIII Jahresversammlung des Vereins Hannover'scher und Westphälischer Irrenärzte zu Hannover, Mai, 1889. Abstracts by Bruns in *Neurolog. Centralbl.*, No. 10, 1889.

The result of weighing 205 brains of idiots and imbeciles is given as follows:

1. Average weight in men greater than in women.
2. Average weight in cases of mental weakness is less than in any other form of mental disease, except, perhaps, general paralysis in women.
3. In mental weakness the brain reaches its maximal weight earlier (earlier too in men than in women) than in normal individuals or those suffering from other forms of mental disease; the decrease in weight also commences earlier.
4. The weights of the fore-brain have the same relation as those of the entire brain, both in men and women.
5. The weight of the cerebellum is abnormally small, and small, too, relatively to that of the fore-brain and the entire brain.
6. In relation to the size and weight of the body the weight is as in normal persons, *i. e.*, in general the brain weight increases with the size and weight of the body. On the other hand, there is relatively an inverse relation in that persons of small body weight have a relatively heavier brain and *vice versa*. The same is true in relation to the height.
7. Epileptics with mental weakness have a smaller brain than those not epileptics. Measurements of the head showed that mental weakness was strongly associated with brachycephalic skulls.

Ein Beitrag zur Kenntniss der feineren pathologischen Anatomie der Idiotie. H. KÖSTER. *Neurolog. Centralbl.*, No. 10, 1889.

A brief review of the literature of the anatomy of the brains of idiots is followed by a short account of K. A. S. whose arrested development